FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 APRIL 1983

Lebanon

U.S. Embassy Explosion — A powerful explosion seriously damaged the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, killing at least 30, including several Americans, and injuring scores of others, Beirut radio reported. Lebanese security sources confirmed that the blast was caused by a booby-trapped car with a false diplomatic license plate that crashed into the embassy compound, according to the radio. Within minutes after the explosion the "Islamic Jihad Organization" claimed responsibility for the attack in a telephone call to AFP's office in Beirut, the agency said. Later, Voice of Lebanon radio said Lebanese security forces have detained a number of suspects.

Reaction — Lebanese leaders were quick to condemn the attack. Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan strongly denounced the bombing and reaffirmed that Lebanon will not let this blow divert it from seeking the path of stability and salvation, Beirut radio said. President Amin al-Jumayyil called it a "criminal act" in his condolence message to President Reagan after inspecting the damage and personally supervising the rescue operations, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. Foreign Minister Elie Salim in a message to Secretary of State Shultz also expressed his belief that this attack, aimed at weakening U.S. and Lebanese determination to restore peace and unity, will not succeed, the Voice of Lebanon reported.

In Israel the prime minister's office said the explosion illustrates precisely why Israel must insist on matters vital to the survival and well-being of its citizens, IDF Radio reported. "Political circles" in Israel hoped that the Beirut attack will encourage Washington to speed up the talks toward an agreement and called for acknowledgement of the "justness" of Israel's demands regarding security, the radio said. Subsequently, Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir welcomed President Reagan's announcement that the attack on the embassy will not deter U.S. efforts to seek peace in the Middle East, Jerusalem radio said.

Noting that foreign broadcasts have connected Iran with the U.S. Embassy explosion, IRNA said these "opinionated" reports presage fresh plots against Iran's Islamic Revolution. According to an earlier IRNA report, the PLO envoy to Tehran received the news with "gladness" and expressed hope that it would serve as the beginning of a series of new operations against U.S. interests in the region. SANA reported that Iranian television denied any Iranian connection with the bombing.

Netanya Talks — The Israeli-Lebanese-U.S. negotiations resumed at Netanya on 19 April, Jerusalem radio noted.

PLO Affairs

'Arafat Activities — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Prague where he held talks with Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak, according to CTK and Prague radio. 'Arafat also met with an Israeli RAKAH party delegation in Prague, ITIM reported. Citing PLO sources in Tunis, AFP said 'Arafat will visit Hungary after Czechoslovakia and may also visit Romania. Meanwhile, a Palestinian source in Fes announced that 'Arafat will visit the Soviet Union in the near future, according to KUNA. The director of the PLO office in Fes subsequently revealed that 'Arafat is expected to return to Morocco shortly to complete the talks he began with King Hassan II over the weekend, KUNA reported.

Al-Wazir on Military Operations, U.S. — The PLO will step up military operations against Israeli forces in the coming period, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir announced during an Al-Biqa' inspection tour in a statement reported by Radio Monte Carlo. Al-Wazir also told journalists in Damascus that the United States is carrying out an "intensive campaign" against the PLO by inciting Arab countries to withdraw recognition of the organization, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. Warning of further U.S. "interference" in Palestinian internal affairs through a political and media campaign against the PLO accompanied by "instigative conspiracies," Al-Wazir said the U.S. position encourages Israel to launch a military attack against PLO bases.

Syria

The deputy defense minister left for Moscow on a 10-day official visit to the Soviet Union, Radio Monte Carlo reported. Monitored Syrian media have not reported the visit.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation — Iraq has decided to reply strongly to Iran's repeated artillery shelling of Basra and Mandali, an Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Baghdad radio. The Iranians are holding Iraq's warnings in contempt, he said. Iranian and Iraqi military communiques broadcast by Tehran and Baghdad radios indicated that fighting on 17-18 April was largely confined to exchanges of artillery fire during which the Iranians hit Basra and Mandali while the Iraqis shelled Abadan. In a statement broadcast by Baghdad radio, an Iraqi military spokesman claimed that total Iranian losses in the Maysan-Faqih battles 10-17 April included 14,982 killed.

Iraqi-Sponsored Peace Committee — the "Popular Islamic Conference" has formed a "peace and reconciliation committee" which is ready to visit Iran immediately if the Iranian Government grants permission, INA reported citing an "authoritative" source from the conference, which met recently in Baghdad. Iraqi President Saddam Husayn has approved the committee's task, which is to ask Iran and Iraq to negotiate directly a solution that will preserve both sides' rights and restore good bilateral relations, INA said.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 076 *19 April 1983*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Karmal Addresses Military Academy 16 April ..... C 1
PDPA's Ziray Receives Border Militiamen 18 Apr ..... C 3
Ratebzad, Soviet Envoy Speak at 18 April Meeting ..... C 3
AFP Reports Soviet Journalist Killed in Kabul ..... C 4

INDIA

Gandhi Addresses Army Commanders 18 Apr ..... E 1
Rohini Satellite Orbiting Satisfactorily ..... E 1
Jammu-Kashmir State Assembly Dissolved 18 April ..... E 1
Prohibitory Orders Promulgated in Agartala ..... E 1
BRIEFS: Crude Oil Production ..... E 1

PAKISTAN

Zia on Afghan Talks, Border Troops Movement ..... F 1
Zia on Karachi Incidents, Local Bodies Election ..... F 1
Iranian President Considering Visit to Pakistan *[DAWN 15 Apr]* ..... F 1

IRAN

U.S. Beirut Embassy Explosion Reported ..... I 1
PLO Official Comments ..... I 1
'Fresh Plots' Foreseen ..... I 1
Armed Forces Day Ceremonies Held in Tehran ..... I 1
Volunteers Leave for Battlefield ..... I 1
Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,289 ..... I 2
Memorandum Signed With Soviet Working Group ..... I 2
NVOI Comments on Development of Kordestan ..... I 2
Banki, Economic Delegation Depart for Romania ..... I 3
Foundation Ships Drinking Water to UAE, Qatar ..... I 3

Karmal Addresses Military Academy 16 April
LD171745 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT 16 Apr 83

[55-minute speech by President Babrak Karmal to teachers, staff,and students at Kabul Military Academy 16 April — recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear Comrades, esteemed staff of the heroic DRA Army. First, I would like to express my warm and revolutionary greetings to you teachers, officers, students, troops, and staff of the Military Academy — this great training center for young officers and the proud future commanders of a new and popular Armed Forces of Afghanistan, patriotic and internationalist officers of our proud Armed Forces [applause]

Comrades, it is a great pleasure that on the eve of celebrating the glorious fifth anniversary of the April Revolution I have an opportunity to visit the DRA Military Academy and meet with you.

The April Revolution — which has succeeded under the leadership of the PDPA, the vanguard of the working class and of all toilers of Afghanistan, and with the direct participation of the patriotic and brave officers, noncommissioned officers and troops and the broad support of our country's masses — ended the bloody and oppressive feudal monarchy regime and the aristocratic and faked republic and opened a new chapter in the proud history of our beloved homeland, Afghanistan.

As a result of the victory of the revolution, under the leadership of our party, profound changes have occurred in economic and social aspects. The political and social domination of the big feudals, usurers, aristocrats, and corrupt bureaucrats was ended. Democratic land reform began, the state sector and planning in the economy and [word indistinct] development of the state sector of economy gained more importance. Economic resources were more effectively used for the [word indistinct] progress and enhancing the prosperity of the workers and the consolidation of the country's defensive power.

For example, 296,000 hectares of land have been distributed to the [word indistinct] peasants of the country. About 11 million peasants — (?the figure) includes family members — were freed of paying the usury. About 760,000 peasant families were exempted from paying taxation fines totalling 822 million afghani. It should be mentioned that other assistance, including chemical fertilizer, seeds, and agricultural machinery, has been given to the country's toiling peasants. The necessary measures have been taken to purchase sugarbeet and cotton from the peasants.

All these measures and a number of other measures were taken to support the toiling peasants. Meanwhile, compared to the first year of the revolution, the volume of agricultural products has increased. For example, if the volume of gross agricultural products had reached 82.1 billion afghani in the year beginning 21 March 1978, then last year this figure reached 86.6 billion afghani. Changes have also occurred in industry, energy, transportation, commerce, etc.

For example, from the beginning of the April Revolution up to the middle of last year, industrial products such as natural gas and condensate reached a value of more than 34 billion afghani; crude oil, cement, metal products, cotton, textiles,and other industrial products totalled tens of billions of afghanis.

Considering that the Soviet Union has considerably increased the purchasing price of natural gas, revenue from the sale of gas amounts to 40 percent of our country's export.

Trade has an important role in the country's economy and the volume of the circulation of [words indistinct] state, mixed and cooperative last year reached 13.9 billion afghanis, which shows a growth of 48 percent compared to the year beginning 21 March 1978.

Foreign trade also plays an important role in the country's economy. Our economic and trade relations with the great Soviet Union and other socialist countries are very good. About 170 projects have been built or are being built in our country with the cooperation of the Soviet Union. Today, more than (?half) of the state sector products are being produced by factories or institutions which have built in Afghanistan with the aid of the Soviet Union.

The exchange of goods between the DRA and the Soviet Union has been doubled, compared to what was planned, in the past 5 years. The volume of trade between the two sides will increase three-fold during 1983-86.

In the social aspects of life, we also gained some achievements which include [words indistinct] of 300,000 state personnel.

A new education system in accordance with the need of our times has been created. Extensive programs have been drawn up to eliminate illiteracy; this has brought fruitful results.

There are presently 27,000 literacy courses in the country and more than 600,000 people are learning reading and writing through them. Since the victory of the April Revolution, more than 40,000 soldiers have learned reading and writing, and about 60,000 soldiers are now registered in 2,280 literacy courses.

Despite the [word indistinct] of imperialism, world and regional reaction, in all fronts, political, ideological, economic, and military [passage indistinct].

We point out with satisfaction that the process of the political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan has begun. The socialist countries, headed by the Soviet Union, and all revolutionary forces of the world accord us great internationalist assistance. We are not alone in our struggle. All of this has brought us optimism, happiness, and revolutionary assurance for the future. [applause].

It should be mentioned that political and diplomatic cooperation between revolutionary Afghanistan and the socialist countries is of great importance. This cooperation has strong legal bases [word indistinct] cooperation and friendship treaties.

Concerning the strengthening and growth of fraternal friendly relations and traditional cooperation with the great Soviet Union, it should be said that Afghan-Soviet friendship has profound historical roots — it begins with the great Lenin and has successfully passed the test of time [applause].

Our relations with many of the developing countries — especially India, Syria, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Ethiopia, Libya, etc — are developing successfully.

In the international arena, we have achieved many successes. The active participation of the DRA in the work of the seventh nonaligned summit in Delhi indicates this fact.

You have learned that the principled position of the DRA faced the proponents of imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism, and inflicted upon them a shamful defeat; their hostile strivings were doomed to defeat. [applause]

Comrades, our party now has 30 provincial committees, 2 major district committees, 70 city committees, 140 district and subdistrict committees, and more than 2,000 primary organizations.

You remember that at the time of revolution, our party had about 18,000 members. Today, our party has more than 85,000 full and candidate members, more than 50 percent of them are in the DRA Armed Forces. This is [word indistinct] pride and is a great strength. [applause].

Comrades, as a result of the various measures taken by the party, Government, and the DRA Armed Forces, the process of normalization of the situation in the country is continuing. The DRA Armed Forces are increasing their combatant capabilities. The revolutionary defense groups and the [word indistinct] defense and resistance groups are actively participating. The KHAD [state information services] and sarandoy organs expose and neutralize the plots and conspiracies of the counterrevolution and are preventing terrorist actions. Hundreds of armed groups, who were previously in the ranks of the counterrevolution, have now begun discussions with the government and are coming to the side of the revolution. Thousands of people who have been deceived by the enemy's propaganda are returning to their peaceful (?life).

The joining by the counterrevolutionary leaders and elements to the revolution, revolutionary government and party, in these revolutionary conditions — when the country is confronted by the armed forces of the counterrevolution — is an example that rarely occurs in revolutions as has happened in Afghanistan. This is one of the great victories of the principled policy of the party and government and the cutting sword of the Armed Forces [applause].

Comrades, fatal blows are being inflicted upon the counterrevolution. The victory of all revolutionary, democratic, and patriotic forces of Afghanistan is certain and inevitable. However, we know that our toiling compatriots in a number of districts, subdistricts, and villages still have not felt and fully touched the importance of the victory of the April Revolution and the benefits and advantages offered by the revolutionary democratic government.

The revolution should not only bring political and moral effects but should also provide qualitative improvement in the toilers' lives. Serious obstacles are present in implementing our plans because of the (?activities) of the armed counterrevolutionaries and the open intervention from outside.

In some regions of the country, the toilers still hope to be freedom from the grip of the counterrevolutionary bands and expect to see the permanent [word indistinct] of the revolutionary government, who can defend them and secure for them a normal life and fundamental transformations in their interests.

I should inform the comrades that tens of thousands of our compatriots are directly and indirectly coming to party and social organizations, the National Fatherland Front, local administrations, the party and government and are asking for help to eliminate these blood-sucking bands [applause].

Heroic comrades, it is the great and important responsibility of our Armed Forces to answer the call of the people and to free them from terrorism and strangulation of bandits sent from abroad. [applause]

It should be said frankly that we see and recognize shortcomings in our work, and we are seriously struggling for their elimination. The work and resolutions of the Ninth and Tenth Plenums of the Party Central Committee are vivid and assuring evidence of this. Of course, many problems and difficulties still exist. However problems and difficulties can never be an obstacle for true and patriotic revolutionaires. [applause]

Our party and government, with the assistance of the Armed Forces of our young republic should, in a military manner and order, overcome all problems and difficulties. [applause]

Severe economic backwardness — unfortunately inherited from the past regimes — high level of illiteracy among the people, [word indistinct] and remoteness of regions, the special mountainous structure of our country, various tribes and nationalities, and tens of other objective and subjective reasons have confronted us with such difficulties and problems.

There is still a shortage of skilled, educated, and experienced personnel, especially in the localities. Everywhere, [words indistinct] responsibility and organization toward the implementation of duties and the orders of the party, do not exist.

It would be not right to ignore the continuing external threat to our state. Imperialism is expanding the undeclared war against our people. In 1982 the U.S. Senate approved the expansion of military and financial assistance to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries. The path that the people of Afghanistan has chosen and our wish to eliminate backwardness and poverty in our country is intolerable for [word indistinct] imperialists and reactionaries, headed by U.S. imperialism. They madly want to reverse the wheel of history. For this purpose, the enemies of the April Revolution — from sold-out mercenaries to those in the White House and the planners of the Pentagon and the CIA — are all continuing their efforts to misrepresent the objectives and aims of our party and government, and [word indistinct] are trying to create obstacles in the path of our country's

revolutionary movement and in the path of securing peace and stability in the region.

But with firm belief and according to the invincible will of our people, the internal counterrevolutionaries forces, the regional and world reaction headed by U.S. imperialism, will take themselves and their satanic plans to their graves. [applause] As an old saying goes, those who dig wells are in the well themselves.

U.S. imperialism shamelessly proclaims various parts of the world as areas of its vital interests and itself as the defender of freedom and of Islam; it supports and protects unpopular and antirevolutionary regimes in the region and in the world.

U.S. imperialism, in collusion with Chinese hegemonism, has transformed Pakistan into a base for training Afghan counterrevolutionary elements. According to reliable information, Washington intends to spend more than $100 billion in the current year, through official channels, to arm and train Afghan counterrevolutionary elements. According to information received, America and its collaborators have so far spent $1 billion in the undeclared war against our revolutionary country.

Also, as well as using ordinary equipment, U.S. imperialism has increased the delivery of chemical grenades and are teaching the use of chemical weapons made in the United States to Afghan counterrevolutionary elements in Pakistani territory.

[Words indistinct] White House and Pentagon [words indistinct] but are increasingly coordinating foreign forces directly in attacks against our revolutionary country. In this way, international imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism and with the collaboration of regional reaction and sold-out mercenaries, intends to organize sabotage, murder, plundering, and terrorism continuously and to disrupt the peaceful and normal life of our toiling and oppressed people.

Under these conditions, our primary and important tasks are armed defense of the gains of the April Revolution, the protection of state sovereignty, national sovereignty, and the DRA's territorial integrity.

Dear comrades, fulfillment of these great and historical duties is the task of the Armed Forces and especially of the heroic Army. [applause]

PDPA's Ziray Receives Border Militiamen 18 Apr

LD182005 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Saleh Mohammad Ziray, Politburo member and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, today attended a meeting of representatives of tribes and nationalities and border militia units and explained to them the lofty objectives of the party and government, which were warmly received by the audience.

At the end of this meeting, which was held in the National Fatherland Front building, a message of gratitude from the border militia addressed to the PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Revolutionary Council was read by a representative of the militia. The message was fervently approved by the audience.

The BAKHTAR correspondent reports that the representatives of border militia units this afternoon met with Sulayman Laeq, minister of the high jirgah of the nationalities and tribes, during which they again expressed resolute readiness to crush and completey eliminate the enemies of the April Revolution.

According to another report, the border militia representatives this morning visited the military academy and held a meeting in the academy's movie theater. During this meeting,the political head of the military academy spoke about the great duties assigned to the militia and revolution defense groups by the revolutionary party and government.

The BAKHTAR correspondent adds that the border militia representatives yesterday visited housing construction factories in Jangalak and met the workers of those factories.

Ratebzad, Soviet Envoy Speak at 18 April Meeting

LD180634 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0425 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Kabul, April 17, BAKHTAR — A gala meeting was held to commemorate the 113th birth anniversary of Vladimir Ilich Lenin, the leader of the working people of the world and the first founder of a proletarian state in the world, at the headquarters of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here today.

Praising V.I. Lenin as a great revolutionary leader, Anahita Ratebzad, member of Politburo of the PDPA CC and president of Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society said that Lenin was a great theoretician, strategist, organizer of the contemporary proletarian movement and a prominent leader of the working class in the world. His leadership in regard with class struggle and the construction of socialism led to the transformation of the picture of the contemporary world.

She added that the April Revolution and especially its new evolutionary phase promoted our long good neighbourly relations with the great country of Soviets to a new qualitative basis and developed it extensively. These relations have fulfilled a great role especially in ensuring the economic independence of the country. Consequently, she underlined, the forms of cooperation based on the quality of rights, mutual interest and broader participation are helping the process of economic advancement with the socialist countries.

Later, F.A. Iabeyev, the ambassador of the Soviet Union, addressing the meeting said: The Soviet Union continues to support the friendly and freedom-loving Afghan people in their struggle against the aggressive and subversive actions of the enemies of revolution and reaction against intervention in the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The Soviet Union, he added, firmly and consistently support the DRA for a political solution and undoubtedly the Afghan people succeed in their just struggles. [sentence as received]

The valorous and freedom-Loving people of Afghanistan, F.A. Iabeyev continued, under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan headed by Babrak Karmal, general

secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA have resolutely rebuffed every aggressive action of the world imperialism and its accomplices. He expressed confidence that the relations of friendship and cooperation between the peoples of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union will befurther strengthened in the interest of the peoples of the two countries and for the cause of the consolidation of universal peace.

AFP Reports Soviet Journalist Killed in Kabul

BK191055 Hong Kong AFP in English 1042 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] New Delhi, April 19 (AFP) — A Soviet journalist was killed in Afghanistan late last month by Moslem rebels fighting the Moscow-backed government of President Babrak Karmal, Western diplomatic sources said here today.

A.A. Kaverznev was shot dead by insurgents operating in the Afghan capital, the sources said quoting highly reliable reports.

The Soviet Communist Party newspaper IZVESTIYA announced the death on March 30 but said Mr. Kaverznev died in Moscow and gave no more details.

Rumours here claimed the newsman might have been poisoned. However diplomats who monitor developments in Arghanistan, where entry of Western journalists is severely restricted, insisted Mr. Kaverznev was shot dead in Kabul and his body was later flown to Moscow.

There was no independent confirmation of the report, and the Afghan Embassy here has refused to comment.

He reportedly was the first Soviet correspondent to die here since Soviet troops marched into Afghanistan in December 1979.

The Soviet news media has the largest contingent of journalists in Afghanistan. The Kabul regime allows only East European news media to maintain a bureau in the embattled country. The Western news media, including the wire services, are rarely allowed entry.

The diplomats said Mr. Kaverznev had come to Afghanistan to cover the fifth anniversary celebration of the April 27 communist revolution. The event has been opened to at least four Western television crews — two French, one West German and one Canadian — who have been granted visas to cover it.

Meanwhile, the diplomats said there were no major incidents during the past week but gave accounts of earlier incidents.

They said a Soviet soldier was ambushed and killed near Micro Rayon Soviet residential complex near the international airport and an Afghan party member was killed in Quala-i-Shohada District of Kabul, both on Thursday.

At least nine members of the Afghan Communist Party were killed early this month in Karte Parwan District of Kabul, they said.

The diplomats confirmed that High Court Judge Abdul Quyum's wife died after their vehicle was ambushed April 10 in Kabul. The judge was injured but diplomats did not know his present condition.

Meanwhile, Western diplomatic analysts said Afghan Defence Minister Abdol Qader's recent promotion Thursday to colonel general confirmed that he was the Afghan Army's most powerful man. Colonel general is the highest rank in the Army.

Gandhi Addresses Army Commanders 18 Apr
BK181605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] The prime minister has underlined the need to ensure that the Army is fully prepared at all times to defend the integrity of the country. Mrs Gandhi was addressing the Army commanders in New Delhi today. She pointed out that while we want peace with honor and friendship with all countries, care has to be taken to closely watch the developments around and safeguard the national interest.

The prime minister praised the Army for discharging the various tasks assigned to it. She made a particular reference to the Army's role in the ASIAD and the recently concluded Non-aligned Summit.

Referring to Assam, Mrs Gandhi said the Army has done extremely well in assisting the state government in maintaining law and order and maintaining uniterrupted flow of oil from the oil installation. The nation as a whole appreciates the work of the jawans [soldiers].

The prime minister also lauded the Army for the good example it is providing to the country in national integration.

Mrs Gandhi asked the Army commanders to attain self-reliance in manufacturing weapons and equipment in the country so that the strain on foreign exchange resources can be reduced.

The prime minister said the government is aware of the necessity to improve the service conditions of the Army and promote the resettlement of ex-servicemen. Everything possible is being done within the existing economic constrains, she added.

The defense minister, Mr R. Venkataraman, and the minister of state for defense, Mr K.P. Singh Deo, were among those who attended the conference. The chief of the Army Staff, GeneralK.B. Krishna Rao, presided.

Rohini Satellite Orbiting Satisfactorily
LD181535 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] The Rohini satellite has completed 15 orbits in 24 hours since it was launched from Sriharikota yesterday. It has taken an average of 96 minutes per orbit.

A SHAR [Sriharikota High-Altitude Range] spokesman [?told] PTI that the elliptical orbit of 400 to 800 kilometers above the earth was close to the prediction and its life will be long.

[Word indistinct] said SHAR had tracked the satellite twice at 2230 hours [1700 GMT] and 0100 hours last night and the signals were strong.

The satellite has been tracked by the ground station at the ISRO [Indian Space Research Organization] center at Peenya in Bangalore. [?It said] the satellite continues to function well and all systems on board are working [?satisfactorily]. There is absolutely no problem, the station sources said.

Jammu-Kashmir State Assembly Dissolved 18 April
BK181610 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Excerpt] The Jammu and Kashmir governor, Mr B.K. Nehru, has dissolved the state assembly. A notification for the dissolution was issued in Jammu today. The chief secretary of the state, Mr Noor Mohammad, told newsmen later that the Council of Ministers will continue.

Our Jammu correspondent reports that the dissolution of the assembly follows the recommendations made by the state cabinet to the governor 6 days ago. The 6-year term of the assembly would have ended on the 6 September this year.

Our correspondent adds that the governor had already approached the election commission for holding the assembly election in the last week of next month.

Prohibitory Orders Promulgated in Agartala
BK190314 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] In Agartala prohibitory orders have been promulgated as a precautionary measure in view of the road blockade campaign of the Tripura Pradesh [state] Congress-I Committee. The orders will remain in force till the end of this month.

Meanwhile, a dusk-to-dawn curfew at Vishalgarh continues.

Tripura's two former chief ministers, Mr Radhikaranjan Gupta and Mr Prafulla Kumar Das, were among those arrested in connection with the agitation. The agitators are demanding an inquiry into the killing of a Congress-I member of legislative assembly, Mr Parimal Saha.

BRIEFS

CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION — The production of crude oil in the country increased to an all-time high of over 21 million tons during 1982-83. This is more by 81,000 tons during the plan production for the year. This is also more by 30 percent when compared to the production during 1981-82. This encouraging production performance and production trend is expected to bring a saving of 4 billion rupees in foreign exchange and less import of crude oil, petroleum products during 1983-84. [Text] [Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 15 Apr 83 BK]

Zia on Afghan Talks, Border Troops Movement

BK190652 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has expressed the hope that the UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan will establish contacts with the Afghan refugees in Pakistan at an appropriate time. Addressing a news conference in Nawabshah this morning, he said that the contact can be made only when there is some progress in the UN-sponsored indirect talks in Geneva on a political solution for Afghanistan.

On the statements made by some Indian leaders in the Lok Sabha and newspaper reports to the effect that there has been movement of troops along the Pakistan borders, the president said that they are acquiring the texts of these statements through diplomatic channels. However, he assured that there has been no unusual movement of troops along the Pakistan or Indian borders. The president said that during his current visit to Sukkur Division, which ended today, he addressed the citizens, met with them, and assessed the functioning of the administration, local bodies, and Zakat committees. The president said : Though thereis always scope for improvement, I have, however, noted the overall functioning of these organizations as satisfactory.

Zia on Karachi Incidents, Local Bodies Election

BK180359 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 17 Apr 83

[Text] Addressing a largely attended civic reception at Khairpur this afternoon, the president said the next local bodies election, scheduled for October-November this year, will be held on a nonparty basis.

He said a nonparty election on the local level is not something unusual. Even in a highly developed country like the United States, most of the city councils are elected on a nonparty basis. The president said we want to make the local bodies training centers for future politicians. He pointed out that in the administration, men and women with high educational qualifications are selected and then given training before giving them responsibility of implementing government policies. But unfortunately, there is no such arrangement for the training of politicians. He said prospective politicians should also get experience of running public affairs, then get the support of the people and shoulder higher responsibilities as representatives of the people. The president said it was their effort to make the local bodies a political system completely in accordance with Islam.

Referring to the demands presented in the address of welcome, he said an assessment is underway to determine which of the industries should be economically set up in different areas.

About sectarian tension in some localities in Karachi, he warned that sectarianism will eat into the vitals of the nation. The president said we should be true Muslims and follow the maxim — stick to your own belief and never criticize the beliefs of others. He said the basic principle of politics is to find a midway without resorting to confrontation. But unfortunately in Pakistan, extremism in politics had become the order of the day. He pointed out that as members of the executive were expected to strictly implement the policies of the government, the political parties were also expected to be highly disciplined.

Later talking informally to journalists at the reception, the president said he did not envisage any structural changes in the overall framework of the 1973 Constitution in the new political setup to be announced by him later this year. He said the present government only intends to (?mingle) some Islamic principles and precepts into the 1973 Constitution.

Iranian President Considering Visit to Pakistan

GF171334 Karachi DAWN in English 15 Apr 83 P 6

[Text] The Iranian ambassador in Pakistan, Mr Abu Sharif, said in Karachi on Thursday night that an official invitation to Iranian President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i to visit Pakistan was under active consideration.

Mr Abu Sharif told a press conference at the Iranian Cultural Centre that a date for President Khamene'i visit to Pakistan would be decided in due course.

The Iranian ambassador also appealed for unity and brotherhood among the Muslims. He said that the people and Government of Iran wanted to see Pakistan as a strong country. He called upon all Muslims to forge unity and foil the anti-Islam conspiracies of their enemies.

Mr Abu Sharif distributed among the newsmen a "fatwa" [decree] of Imam Khomeyni on the need for the Shi'ite-Sunni unity.

U.S. Beirut Embassy Explosion Reported

GF181354 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] A fearful explosion occurred at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut today. Many were killed as a result.

The Islamic al-Jihad Organization [Munazzamat al-Jihad al-Islami] has claimed responsibility for the explosion. The same organization claimed responsibility last month for the attack on U.S. Marines in Beirut.

PLO Official Comments

GF181724 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Tehran, April 18, IRNA — The Palestinian ambassador to Tehran, Salah az-Zawawi, said here today that he had received with gladness the news of the U.S. Embassy explosion in Beirut.

Az-Zawawi who was talking to IRNA Monday evening, also expressed hope that the explosion would serve as a first instance of a series of new operations against U.S. interests in the region.

He noted he was hopeful that the embassy explosion would be taken as a serious response to U.S. threats against the Middle East.

'Fresh Plots' Foreseen

LD182116 Tehran IRNA in English 2023 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Tehran, April 18, IRNA — Foreign broadcasts attached to global news imperialism and among them B.B.C. World Service, the Zionist radio (Tel Aviv) and the Voice of America have broadcast the news of the U.S. Embassy explosion in Beirut in close connection with Iran. The opinionated tone of reporting by the said radios has been interpreted here as presaging fresh plots against the Islamic Revolution of Iran in the region.

Political observers in Tehran also foresee fresh plots by U.S. imperialism against the Muslim peoples of the region.

Last year the Zionist regime invaded southern Lebanon in a preconceived plot against the Islamic Revolution, paving the way for strengthening U.S. presence in the region, immediately after the wounding of the Zionist ambassador to London.

Armed Forces Day Ceremonies Held in Tehran

LD181341 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] According to our correspondents, ceremonies marking the fifth anniversary of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran were held today at Tehran's Azadi Square, attended by General Zahirnezhad, chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran; Colonel Salimi, minister of defense; Colonel Samimi, head of the National Police of the Islamic Republic of Iran; the acting chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces; acting commanders of the army, Air Force, and Navy; a number of Islamic Revolution Guard Corps commanders; a number of representatives form the Armed Forces political-ideological departments; a number of Majlis deputies; families of martyrs and selfless combatants of the Islamic Revolution; a number of foreign military attaches in Iran; and people from all walks of life. The Muslim and committed inhabitants of Tehran lined the parade routes from the early hours of this morning and attended the glorious ceremonies held at Azadi Square.

General Zahirnezhad, chief of Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, addressed the gathering at Azadi Square, congratulating the personnel of the Armed Forces and the heroic nation of Iran on the occasion of the army's glorious day. He said: We leave behind the fourth anniversary of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran at a time when the army of Islam along with other combatants on God's path seeking to achieve His godly aims is going to remove forever the aggressive hands of enemies of Islam and the Islamic Revolution from territory of our Islamic homeland. All of us must realize that our army, unlike previously, is no longer a tool and weapon in the hands of America and other superpowers for the realization of their evil aims. At the moment, the brave and Muslim Republic of Iran is considered a power in the service of the Islamic Revolution and Islam with the sole aim of serving God and His creations.

Following the chief of Joint Staff's address, the personnel of the Armed Forces--the army, police, and Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran as well as the Armed Forces of the Guard Corps and the mobilization of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps of the Islamic Republic of Iran--paraded. Units of the Armed Forces carrying full military equipment paraded in front of the holy Koran and the auspicious picture of Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and commander in chief of the Armed Forces. Simultaneously, a few fighting aircraft belonging to the Navy transport and fuel unit of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces flew over Tehran in formation.

During the ceremonies, various military units' law enforcement forces consisting of infantry, combat, and communications battalions of the Ground Forces paraded in front of the pavillion. [Passage indistinct]

Volunteers Leave for Battlefield

GF190926 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Coinciding with the celebration of the glorious Armed Forces Day of the Islamic Republic of Iran, another group of self-sacrificing mobilized units of the Bushehr Islamic Revolution Guards Corps this morning left for the imposed war battlefield to fight against the Zionist-Ba'thist mercenaries.

According to a Central News Unit report, different groups of hezbollahis and numbers of families of the kerbala liberation were present at the departure of these brave warriors. While shouting the slogan of "War, war till the victory, God, God save

Khomeyni until the Mehdi's revolution," they were enthusiastically seen off by their loved ones.

Also this afternoon, groups of self-sacrificing youths of the mobilized unit of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Khark Island left for the battlefields of right against wrong to fight against Iraq. These groups this morning before leaving took part in the Armed Forces celebration and parade in front of the Koran and the portrait of the great Islamic leader and commander in chief.

Another group of a mobilized unit of the Islamic Revolution guards from Dayyar left this morning for the battlefields. On their departure, different groups of hezbollahi people were present and shouted slogans to see off their loved ones.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,289

LD181722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Communique No 1,289 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His Exalted name. While commemorating Armed ForcesDay and wishing success and victory for the self-sacrificing combatants of Islam on the fronts of the battle between right and wrong, we congratulate Imam Khomeyni, great leader of the revolution, founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the martyr-nurturing nation of Iran. We send best greetings to the pure souls of the martyrs of our dear Islamic homeland. Conditions on the fronts of the imposed war are brought to the attention of the dear compatriots:

Exchange of artillery and heavy weapons' fire continued yesterday between our mighty combatants and the aggressive, Ba'thist, Iraqi mercenaries. Thanks to the fire of the combatants of Islam, enemy movements were prevented and a tank, a cannon, a truck, and several enemy trenches and foxholes were destroyed. Several Saddamist mercenaries were killed or wounded.

On the Marivan front, thanks to heavy artillery fire by Ground Forces combatants on Iraqi positions and the Biyareh Garrison, Saddamist positions in that sector were destroyed and considerable damage was inflicted on the installations of the Biyareh Garrison.

Exchange of fire was also in progress on the southern fronts yesterday. In the Wal Fajr operational theater,heavy exchange of artillery and heavy weapons' fire was in progress.

In the (Zayd) Garrison sector, enemy patrol groups intended to approach the defensive lines of our combatants. Our combatants engaged them in combat and forced them to retreat, inflicting losses and casualties on them.

During exchanges of fire on the Abadan front, the combatants of Islam brought enemy positions, units, and supply routes under fire, destroying six observation posts and four light and heavy weapons' emplacements and killing the guards and crews of the emplacements. They prevented enemy movements in the sector.

During the past 24 hours, Abadan came under enemy heavy weapons' fire, as a result of which two dear compatriots were injured and a number of houses were damaged.

During the past 24 hours, the few enemy acts of aggression by air were repelled by the self-sacrificing Air Force personnel and by antiaircraft fire.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Memorandum Signed With Soviet Working Group

LD181957 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] The seventh session of the Iranian-Soviet permanent working group for the protection of pollution in the Caspian Sea, which began talks on 12 April, ended this afternoon. A memorandum of understanding was signed between the two sides at the conclusion of the session. The memorandum deals with methods of continuing joint cooperation, studying the work accomplished, and the future plans of the Iranian-Soviet permanent working group in connection with preventing pollution in the Caspian.

NVOI Comments on Development of Kordestan

TA122016 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Unattributed commentary: "Serious Steps Must Be Adopted Toward Achieving Legitimate Demands of Kurdish People"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: Several days ago the country's security council held a session under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi with the participation of military, security, and intelligence officials. Among the issues discussed at this meeting was the problem of the Kurdish inhabited regions in the country's western area, particularly West Azarbayjan Province, in the presence of the deputies of this province in the Islamic Majlis and other people.

What is important is that certain decisions were made regarding development projects in the Kurdish inhabited regions. Referring to the situation in these areas, the prime minister said: Kordestan and the Kurdish inhabited regions have special significance forthe Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In the future, effective steps will be taken to establish security in that region. The prime minister added: The counterrevolutionaries have prevented the oppressed and deprived masses in the Kurdish inhabited regions from benefitting from government assistance in a suitable way. However, as a result of the endeavors of the fighters as well as of the people of Kordestan and Western Azarbayjan, today we can plan for the development and prosperity of Kordestan more than ever before and take steps in this direction.

As the prime minister himself has pointed out, so far no effective steps have been taken with regard to the development and

prosperity of Kordestan. Of course, one of the reasons for this has been the chaotic situation in this region which had been turned into one of the arenas for the activities of the counterrevolution.

With the revolution's victory, the noble Kurdish people who had wholeheartedly welcomed the glorious Iranian Revolution, expected that oppressive restrictions in this region, and above all against the Kurdish people themselves, would be terminated forever, and that the legitimate demands of these struggling people would be complied with by the Islamic Government. The Kurdish strugglers who had smashed the plots of the counterrevolution in the very first year of the revolution's victory, succeeded in reaching an agreement in this connection with the late Ayatollah Taleqani. The demands of the Kurdish people were raised and stipulated in this joint agreement, which has special significance for resolving differences in Kordestan and for settling the ethnic problem in this region as well as in other areas of our country.

Which articles of this agreement have so far been fulfilled and which ones have still not been implemented? A definite answer must be given to this question in connection to the Kurdish inhabited regions. The Islamic Government's activities must be taken into consideration in the face of these legitimate and legal demands. As long as the prime minister says that today we can plan and take steps for the development and prosperity of Kordestan more than ever before, everyone expects that special and effective steps will be taken toward meeting the demands of the Kurdish people, and that all the articles of the aforementioned agreement will be implemented so that the foes of the Kurdish people and of the Iranian Revolution will be disarmed in order that the Kurdish people will take firm steps toward the development and prosperity of their land with complete confidence and trust.

Banki, Economic Delegation Depart for Romania

LD191012 Tehran IRNA in English 0912 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] Tehran, April 29 (IRNA) — An Iranian economic delegation headed by State Minister in charge of the Plan and Budget Organisation Mohammad Taqi Banki left Tehran this morning for Romania.

Dr Banki said his trip was in the aftermath of the Romanian delegation's trip to the Islamic Republic of Iran in 1360 (1980-1) in which the two countries reached an (? agreement) for purchase of oil and other goods. He said he was travelling to Romania for studying and assessing the said agreement and for eliminating the problems on the quality of the delivered goods to Iran and on transportation.

He said his trip was purely for economic reasons, aimed at betterment of the bilateral economic ties and augmentation of the Iranian economic capabilities.

He said the trade volume between the two countries was 900 million dollars annually and that Iran will discuss an increase in its non-oil exports to Romania in this trip.

On the Iranian imports from Romania, Banki said they included raw materials for steel factories, spare parts, services in energy industry, dam construction such as Saveh's (south of Tehran) Forqan dam, and some other joint projects. He said Romania will be invited to have more cooperation in Iranian development projects.

In conclusion, referring to Iran-Romania cooperation in Tabriz (northwest of the country) tractor factory, Banki said the factory was producting 30,000 tractors a year.

Foundation Ships Drinking Water to UAE, Qatar

LD182130 Tehran IRNA in English 1908 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Bandar Abbas, April 18, IRNA — The naval branch of the Iranian "Foundation for the Oppressed" shipped its first drinking water cargo of 800 tons to the UAE and Qatar.

The foundation was given this responsibility last week after Ayatolah Hoseyn Ali Montazeri urged the government to provide drinking water for the Persian Gulf states who are threatened by a giant oil slick affecting their shores.